<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>SPRING 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class code</td>
<td>PHIL.9040.001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructor Details</td>
<td>Dolores Iorizzo</td>
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Appointment by arrangement.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class Details</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
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<td>Prerequisites</td>
<td>None</td>
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**Class Description**

Introduces students to the fundamental questions of moral philosophy, with attention to both classic and contemporary readings. (What is it to be a good human being, and to act morally? How do we decide what morality demands of us in some situation?) Also addresses some issues of current moral debate.

The course will consist of lectures, discussion of case studies, analysis of literature and film, and extensive student participation.

**Desired Outcomes**

A better understanding of the nature of the right and the good, ethical character, and agency, and the methods of philosophy in acquiring this understanding. This course will also develop analytical skills (reading, writing, thinking, argumentation) that will benefit the student in their other courses.

**Assessment Components**

A midterm essay (by week 7 – 30% - up to 2000 words), a final essay (by week 14 - 40% - up to 3000 words) and a final examination (week 15 - 30%). Each student will get a grade no lower than that determined by these inputs and in this proportion, but in some cases a higher grade may be awarded to take into account such factors as improvement, effort, and so on. Grades will be lowered by 3% in the case of each unexcused absence beyond one, and by 1.5% for each late arrival (after warning given).

Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.
Assessment Expectations

Grade A: Mastery of the issues and literature, and an ability to make some original contribution.

Grade B: Good grasp of issues and literature, but little or no attempt at own contribution.

Grade C: Some but uncertain grasp of the issues.

Grade D: Some but uncertain grasp of the issues.

Grade F: Failure to make any attempt to master the material.

Required Text(s)


J.J.C. Smart and Bernard Williams, Utilitarianism: For and Against (Cambridge University Press - ISBN: 052109822X)


Supplemental Texts(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-Library)


Internet Research Guidelines

There are many useful sources on the internet, but also many bad ones. The Stanford Encyclopedia

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://plato.stanford.edu is faultless, but there are many other
sites that provide incorrect information. If you want to use an internet site, please consult me as to its usefulness or credibility.

**Additional Required Equipment**

None

**Session 1**

**The Aspirations of Ethics**

Readings: Williams, *Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy*

**Session 2**

**Definitions of Justice**

Readings: Plato, *Republic*, Book 1

**Session 3**

**Justice in State**


**Session 4**

**Justice in State and Individual**

Readings: Plato, *Republic*, Books 6

**Session 5**

**Aristotle’s Virtue Ethics: Happiness**


**Session 6**

**Aristotle’s Virtue Ethics: Virtue and Friendship**


**Session 7**

**Aristotle’s Virtue Ethics: Contemplation**

Session 8

The Moral Philosophy of Kant

Readings: Kant, *Groundwork for the Metaphysic of Morals*

First Essay Due: 24 March

Session 9

The Moral Philosophy of Kant

Readings: Kant, *Groundwork for the Metaphysic of Morals*

Session 10

The Moral Philosophy of Kant

Readings: Kant, *Groundwork for the Metaphysic of Morals*
Readings: Williams, *Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy*, Ch.4

Session 11

Utilitarianism

Readings: Mill, *Utilitarianism*, Chs 1-4

Session 12

Utilitarianism, Justice and Rights

Readings: Mill, Utilitarianism, Ch. 5
Readings: Smart and Williams, *Utilitarianism: For and Against*

Session 13

Abortion and Euthanasia

Readings: Thomson and Tooley in Singer (ed.), *Applied Ethics*

Session 14

Life and Death

Readings: Hume and Rachels in Singer (ed.), *Applied Ethics*

Session 15

Final Exam and Final Paper Due
Toilet breaks should be taken before or after class or during class breaks.

Food & drink, including gum, are not to be consumed in class.

Mobile phones should be set on silent and should not be used in class except for emergencies.

Laptops are only to be used with the express permission of the teacher.

Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.

Required Co-curricular Activities

None

Estimated Travel Costs

None

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Public philosophy lectures offered during term, and those offered at the Institute of Philosophy, UCL, King's College London and Birkbeck College.

Your Instructor

Dolores Iorizzo has been teaching Ethics at the University of London, King's College and Imperial College since 1992. She has worked on many international research projects in philosophy and the history of science, including the Ancient Commentators on Aristotle Project at King's College London [http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/philosophy/research/commentators/index.aspx] and [http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/philosophy/research/commentators/index.aspx] The Newton Project.